(b) whether it is also a fact that direct requirement to Class II posts has not been abolished even after ten years of implementation of these recommendations;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor in view of the acute stagnation in the cadre; and

(d) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to change recruitment rule of Assistant Engineers, in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) It is a fact that Limited departmental examination was introduced from February, 1977 for promotion in the grade of Asstt. Engineer from the grade of Jr. Engineer in C.P.W.D.:

(b) and (c) The direct recruitment to the grade of Asstt. Engineers (Class II) has remained suspended in CPWD since 1972. However, the provision in this regard has not been deleted from the Recruitment Rules.

(d) There is no such proposal under Government's consideration.

Eligibility criteria for promotion of Junior Engineers in CPWD

2558. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rule of promoting graduate Junior Engineers with five years experience had been scrapped in CPWD in consideration of the stagnation in the cadre;

(b) whether it is a fact that the eligibility criteria for promotion from Diploma Holder has been extended from eight years to ten years, on the same consideration;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the eligibility criteria from Grade II. J. E. to Grade I is also five years; and

(d) if so, what would be the eligibility for promotion to Assistant Engineer from Grade I and Grade II Junior Engineers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) It is not correct that the earlier prescribed 5 years eligibility period for Graduate Junior Engineers for promotion as Assistant Engineer has been dispensed with on grounds of stagnation. It is also not correct that the Diploma Holder Junior Engineers have been prescribed a 10 years' eligibility period for promotion as Asstt. Engineers.

These regulations were followed before 1971. Subsequent to a Delhi High Court decision in 1971, all Junior Engineers are promoted as Assistant Engineers without reference to any prescribed length of service.

(c) Yes.

(d) There is no eligibility period prescribed for promotion of Grade I Junior Engineers to Assistant Engineer. The question of Grade II Junior Engineers being promoted as Assistant Engineers does not arise.

Taking over of Visvesaraya Iron and Steel Limited

2559. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to take over the Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Limited, Bhadrawati by the SAIL is pending since long;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(c) at what stage the matter is pending before Government and by when it would be taken over by the SAIL?